

FIG. 1

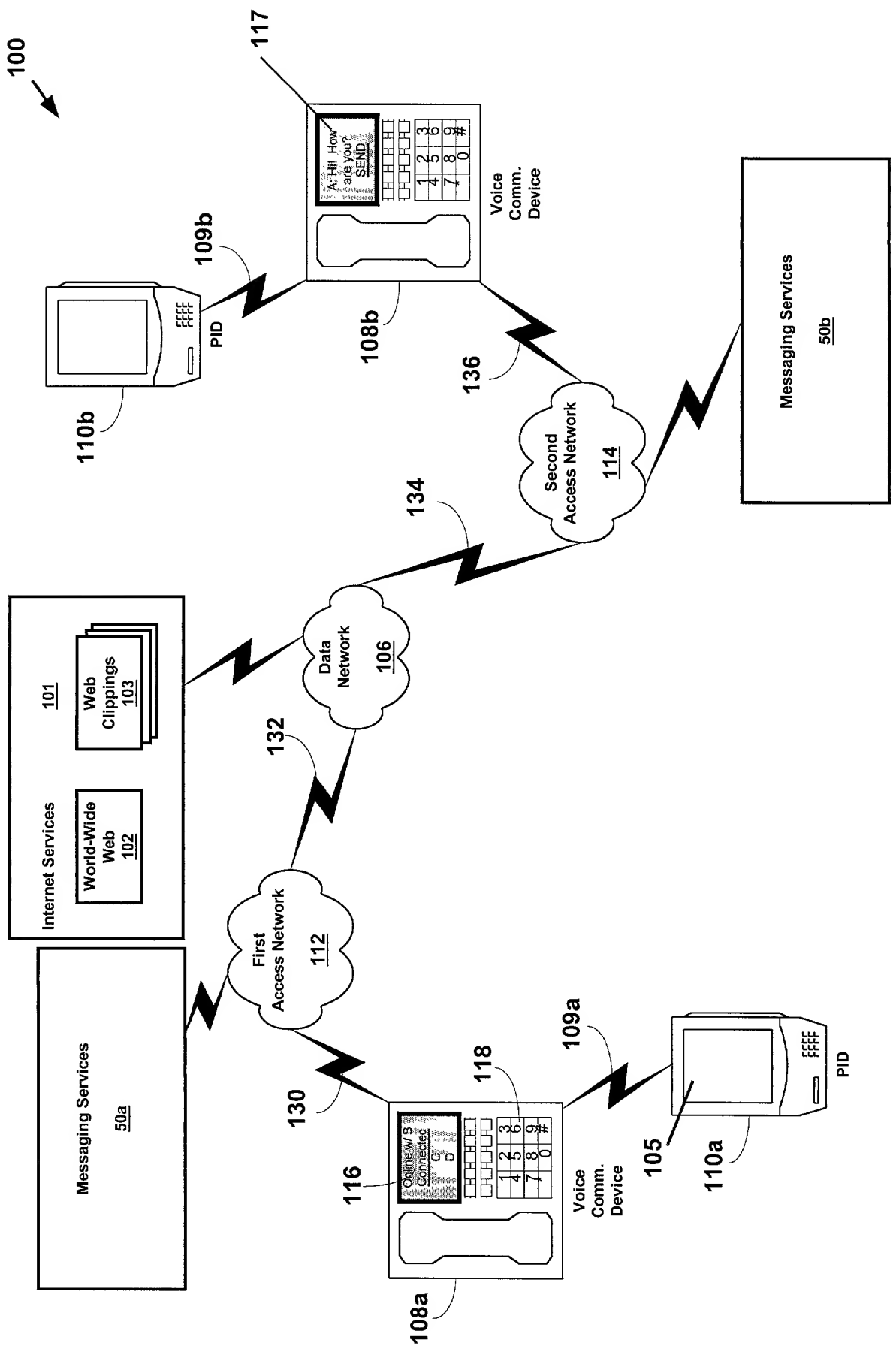


FIG. 2

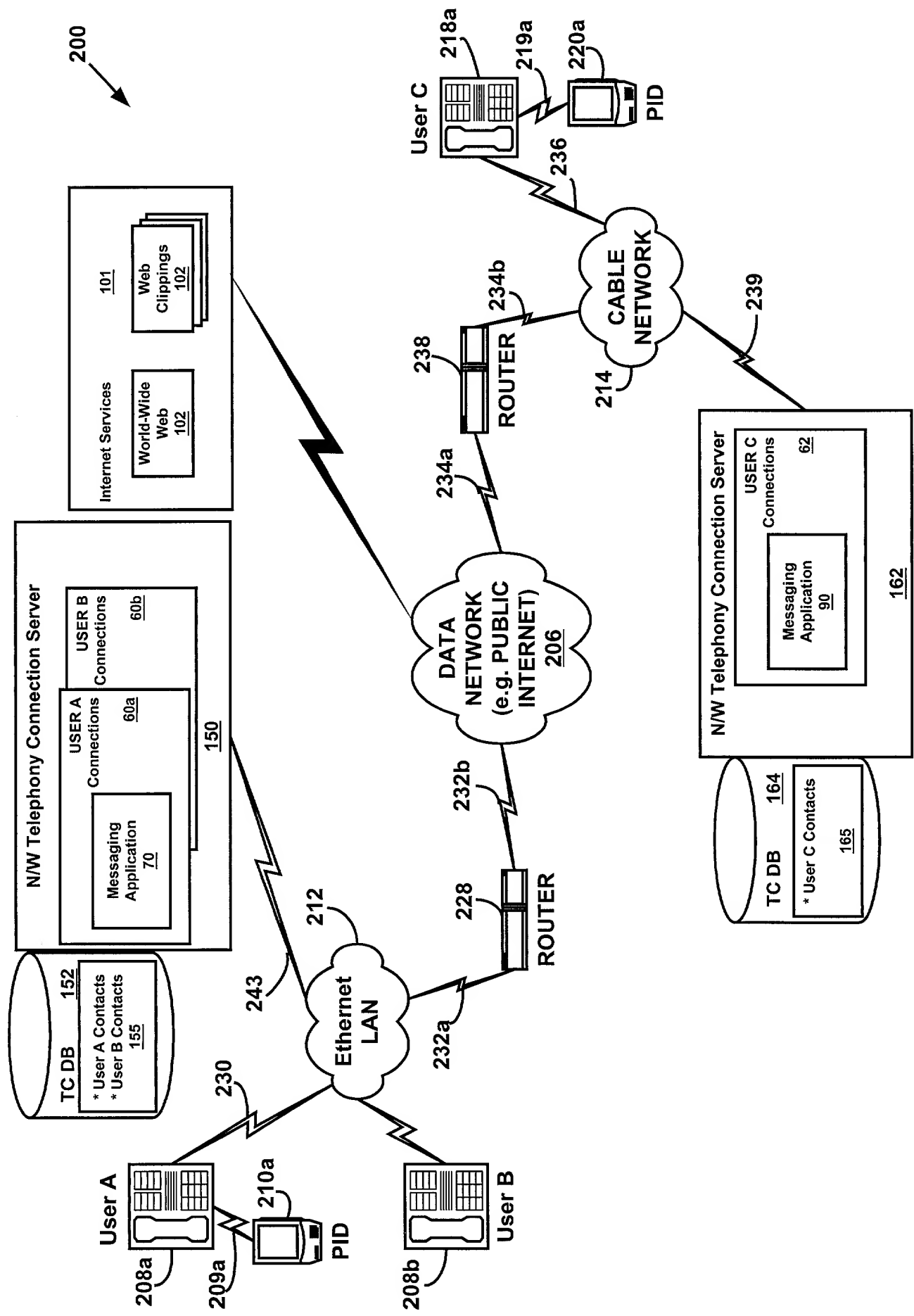


FIG. 3

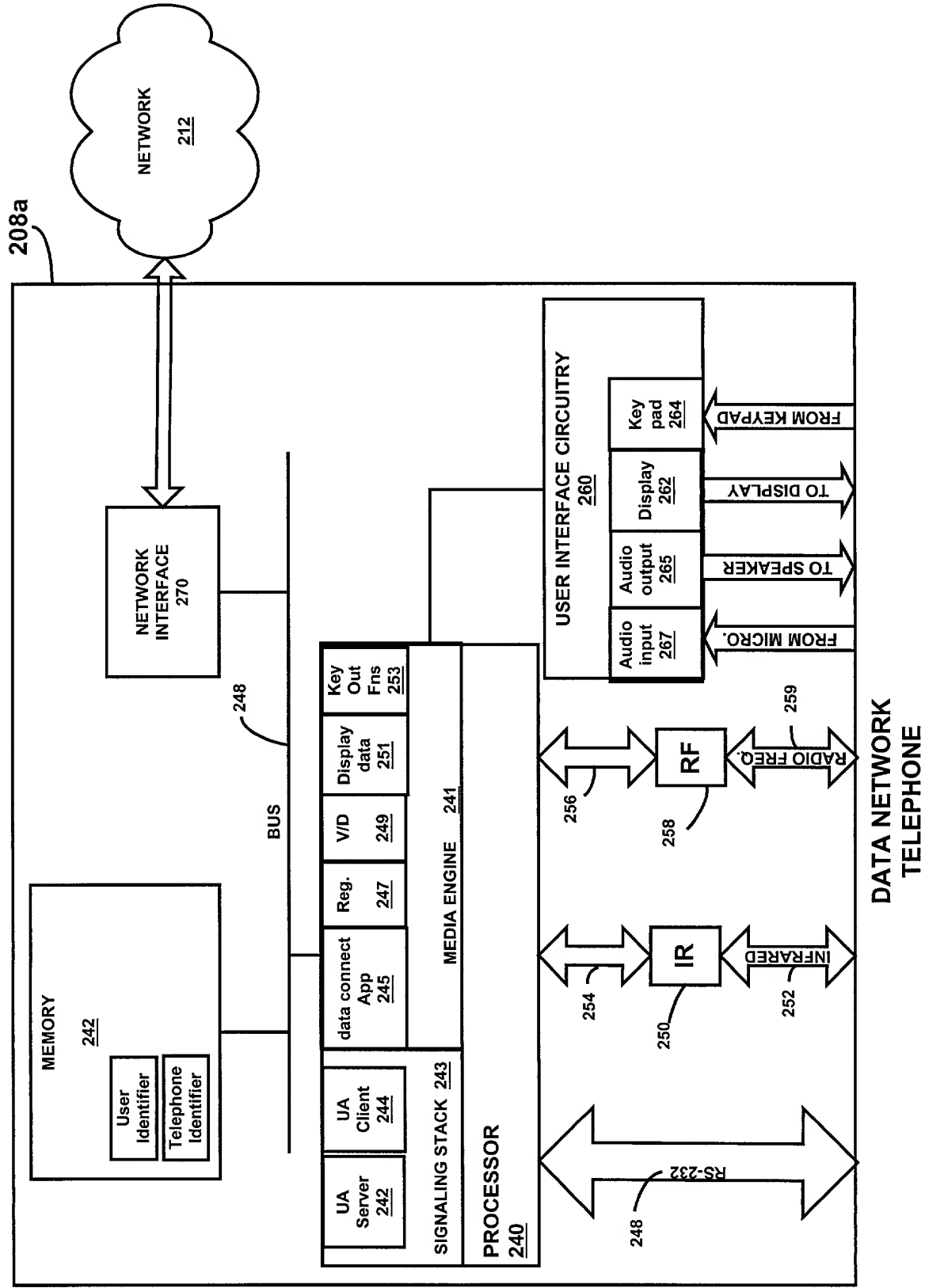
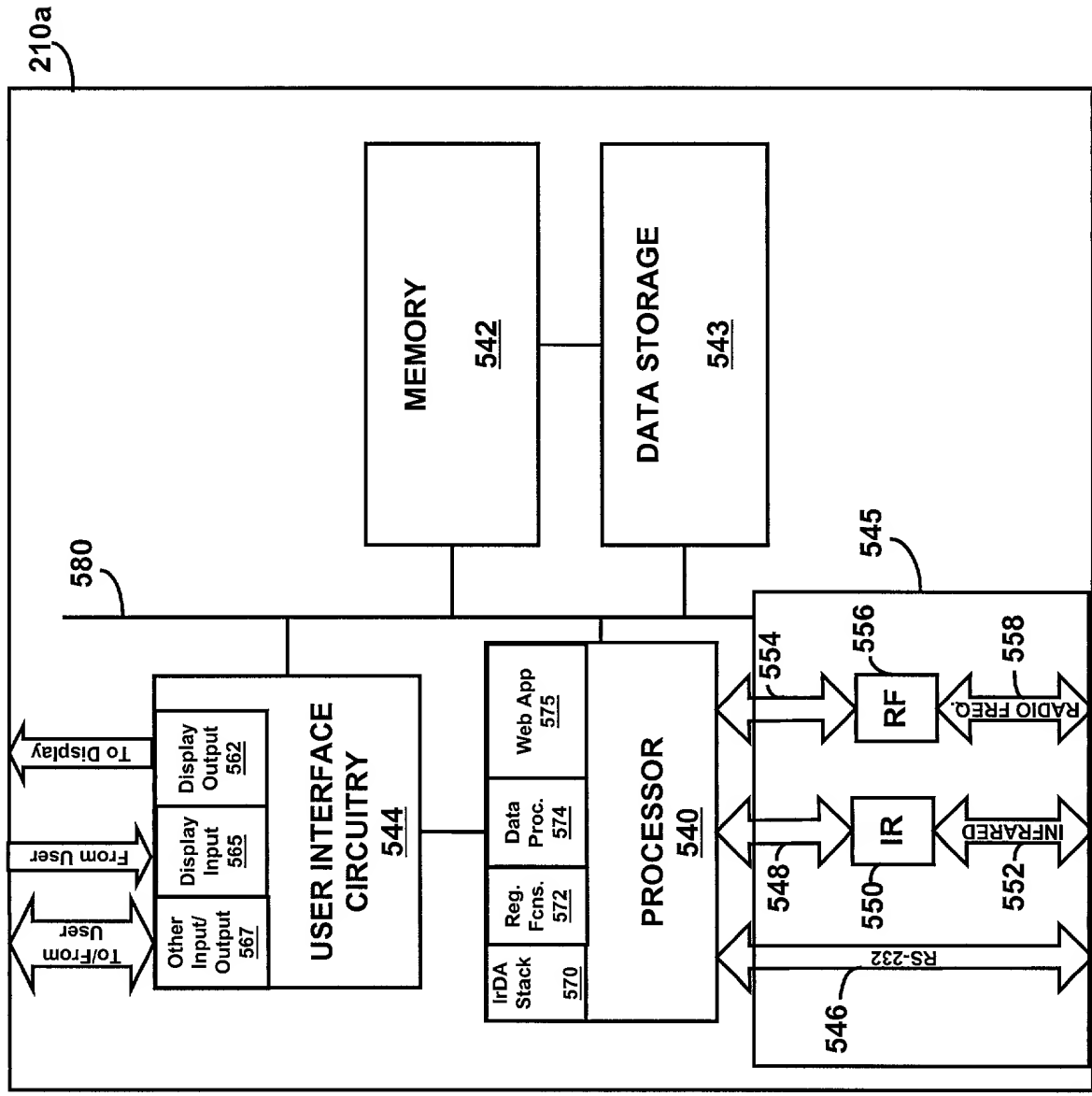


FIG. 4



PID

FIG. 5

600

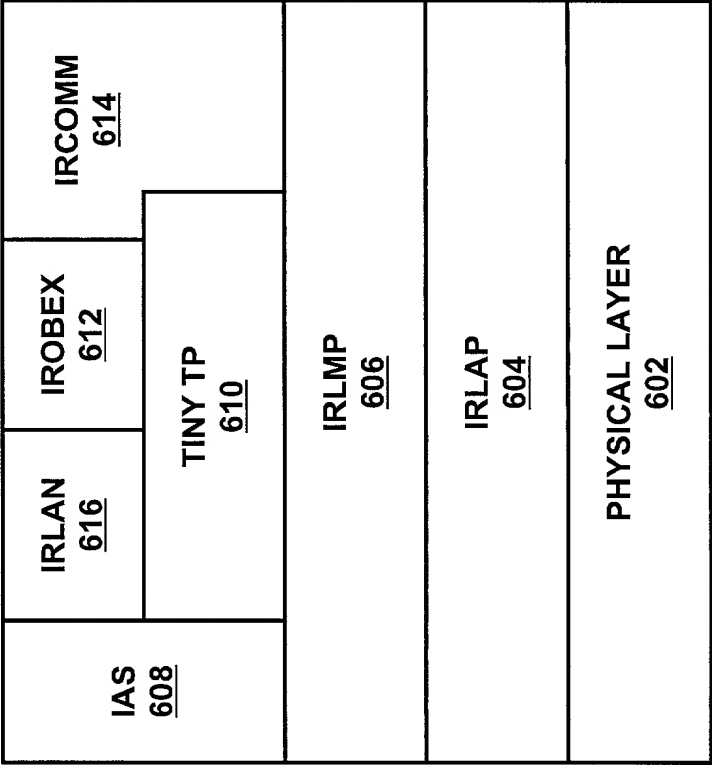


FIG. 6 is a block diagram of a system for managing instant messaging connections between users. The system includes three users: USER A 208a, USER B 208b, and USER C 208c. USER A 208a is connected to USER B 208b via a Voice over Data Channel 66. USER A 208a is also connected to USER B 208b via a Telephony Signaling Connection 65 and an IM Media Connection 64. USER A 208a is connected to USER C 208c via an IM Media Channel 90. Each user has a corresponding Messaging Application (70 for USER A, 90 for USER C) that manages connections and contact lists. The Messaging Application for USER A 208a includes a Contacts Connected List 72, a Connection Announcer 76, a Contacts List 80 (containing \* C, \* Joe, and \* Wilma), a Contacts Detector 74, a Contacts Reporter 78, and a Connection with B 82. The Messaging Application for USER C 208c includes a Contacts Connected List 92, a Connection Announcer 94, a Contacts List 95, a Contacts Detector 91, and a Contacts Reporter 93. The system also includes an Internet 206, which is connected to USER A 208a, USER B 208b, and USER C 208c. The Internet 206 is also connected to JOE and WILMA, who are part of the Contacts List 80 for USER A 208a. The Internet 206 is also connected to the Messaging Application for USER A 208a via an Instant Messaging Signaling Channel 67 and an Instant Messaging Media Channel 68. The Messaging Application for USER A 208a also includes an IM Connection with C 84 and Other IM Connections 86. The Messaging Application for USER C 208c also includes a Connection with D 96, an IM Connection with A 97, and Other IM Connections 98.

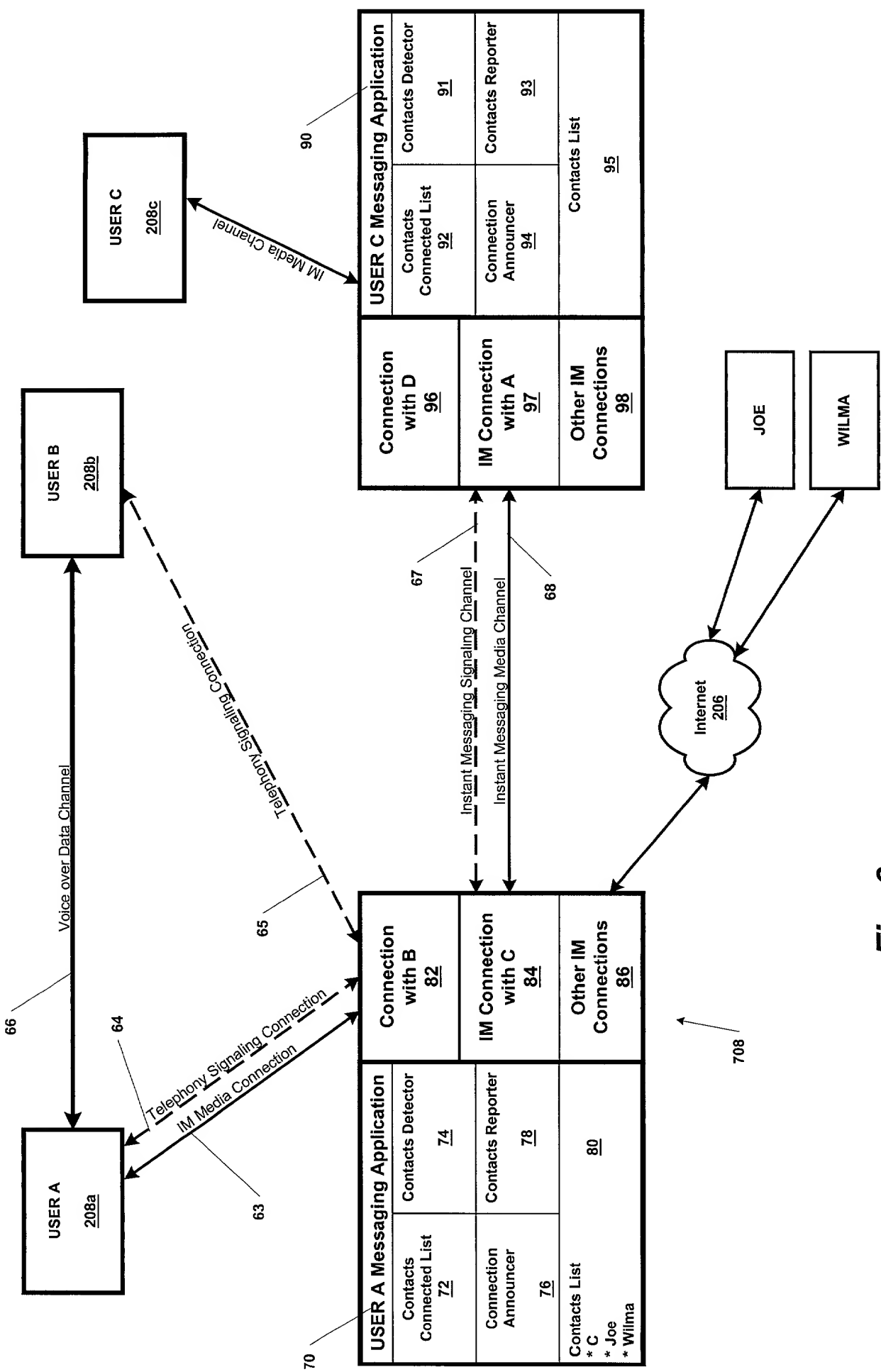


Fig. 6

FIG. 7

